SAWDUST

Vol. III Nov. 1943 No. 11

Down to brass tacks

A Monthly Publication Of General Interest Issued By The Lone Pine Lumber & Supply Co. For Complimentary Circulation Among Its Friends, Customers and Customers-To-Be.

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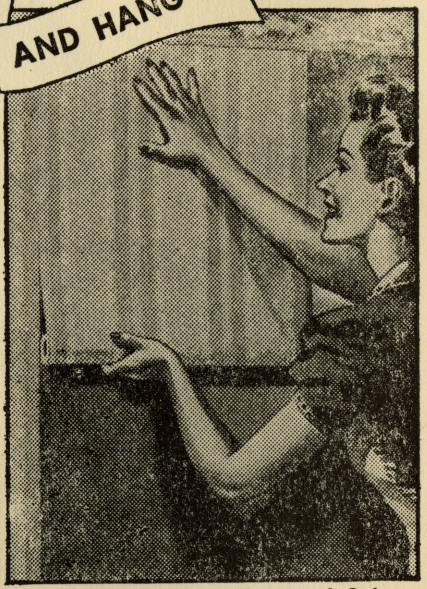

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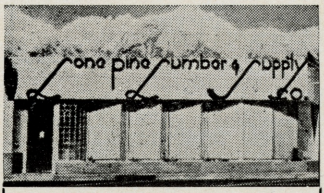

Founded A. D. 1919
by
Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Dow

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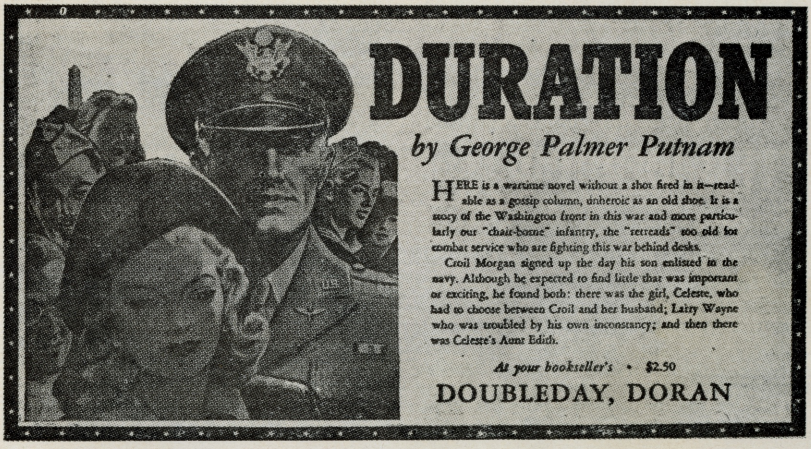
MASCOT

CHALFANT PRESS
PRINTERS

Lone Pine's own Major George Palmer Putnam has again proved that if you want to get something done let a busy man do it. Despite his manifold duties in the Army Air Force he has authored another book. Of his numerous volumes he confided to us that his latest is neither his best nor his worst.

Book reviewers throughout the country have been unanimous in their praises of Major Putnam's "Duration." The San Francisco Chronicle says in part:

"Twenty years from now collectors of books pertaining to the present conflict will probably reserve a place on their shelves for Mr. Putnam's "Duration." Certainly few books will better typify the Washington life of our period. Subtitled "A Novel of War on the Washington Front," it is the story of the men too old for combat service, the "retreads," who are fighting this war behind desks. Yet, as Mr. Putnam's hero remarks, life in Washington doesn't change. Shift a few names, and what you read about the Civil War sounds like today. As for the city itself, there are only a couple of real differences between 1943 and the last war . . . But "Duration" is not a novel in the ordinary sense of the word . . . The dialogue manages to be both pungent and convincing . . ."


DURATION
by George Palmer Putnam
HERE is a wartime novel without a shot fired in it—readable as a gossip column, unheroic as an old shoe. It is a story of the Washington front in this war and more particularly our "chair-borne" infantry, the "retreads" too old for combat service who are fighting this war behind desks.
Croil Morgan signed up the day his son enlisted in the navy. Although he expected to find little that was important or exciting, he found both: there was the girl, Celeste, who had to choose between Croil and her husband; Larry Wayne who was troubled by his own inconstancy; and then there was Celeste's Aunt Edith.
At your bookseller's • $2.50
DOUBLEDAY, DORAN

SENTENTIOUS ANECDOTES

Passed by Naval Censor

If you should find any reason to answer this letter, you might give me a little dope on Charlie Sumner. I have traveled quite a way since leaving Lone Pine, but have yet to meet anyone with a worse disposition. I trust that he is in good form!—Ensign First Class R. D. Loundagin.

Joy-Kick

I really get a kick out of "Wallpaper." Keep it up.—Staff Sgt. Leonard Browne.

Yearning

In the fourteen months since I left to join the Air Forces I've seen a bit of the country—Florida, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., and now Kansas where I am with a combat outfit that hopes to have a hand in totting up the final balance sheet with the Axis crowd who wished this war on us. But wherever I happen to be, I just can't think of any place I'd rather be, if it were possible, than Whitney Portal.—Major George Palmer Putnam.

Embellished

Last Saturday I received an official notice from the army that I had been, after 25 years, awarded the Purple Heart for having been extra clumsy on Oct. 14, 1918, and failing to dodge a bit of shrapnel. Now the ribbons on my manly chest make me look like a peacock's behind.—Major Roy French.

Soothsayer

The world is full of silly people. Roosevelt proved it.—C. I. Sumner.

Vitamin Age

In 10 or 15 years no one will want to live in any house we now consider modern, because the new houses will have so many electrical and new and automatic features that present homes will be considered obsolete.—Carl S. Kelty.

Abbasso il Fascismo!

It is fitting that Fascism should fade out first in the country of its origin—that the people who first came under its illusion should be the first to achieve disillusionment.—LIBERTY.

Dupes

Till now we have not heard one single word about the Axis repairing the damage done to other countries. Already some people want the Allies to be soft with them. We have been soft for 25 years, and the only lesson we reaped from that experience is that a soft peace is a peace for suckers. —News From Belgium.

Preciseness

On a government order for 39,400 two-inch Gate Hooks, his company was picked up on a one only shortage. When the check was received in payment of the invoice, one cent had been deducted. With the one-cent-shortage remittance came a letter stating that the lot had been counted **twice** to verify the shortage.—The Stanley Works.

Flattering

Thanks for last SAWDUST, one of your best numbers.—Jack Murphy, Reno, Nev.

Come Again

Just got back to Los Angeles from a lovely small visit in your worthy town, and as I enjoyed the haystacks that smelled like springtime, was wondering if you could send me one.—Albert Burki.

STRICTLY PERSONAL

This writer is thoroughly disgusted with the constant harrassing and provocations of an army of bureaucratic investigators that have and are descending on our business. With the notable lone exception of a WPB investigator they have all appeared to be working on the theory that every man who is hiring people and producing or marketing anything is by nature dishonest. Thus far these various investigators have apparently decided that we are honest. But with the above mentioned notable exception the balance have set themselves up as judge, jury and prosecutor in determining if any rules and regulations of their respective alphabetical bureaus have been broken.

This writer returned to Lone Pine shortly before midnight October 20th from a conference with attorneys in Los Angeles relative to hearings before a state bureau, to find a federal investigator sitting on the curb awaiting his return.

This investigator had been scrutinizing our books much of the day, and immediately upon our return informed us that he had found approximately 100 violations of Regulation W.

Regulation W pertains to customers' credits.

Accounts must be cut off if they have not been paid by the 10th of the second month following date of purchase; 1/3rd down must be collected before delivery of a stove; 20% down must be collected before delivery of household furnishings other than linoleum, which bounces over into the 1/3rd bracket; and far, far into the night.

That it is intended that we shall have many of these bureaucratic set-ups after the war is indicated by the ground-work of this investigator. He flatly asserted that most merchants favored Regulation W and wanted it to continue after the war.

Any man in business who must have the government step in and regulate his credit has no right to survive.

Despite the fact that this investigator informed us that continued violations of Regulation W would result in the closing of our business, we hereby serve definite and conclusive notice on any interested persons or bureaus that we shall continue to use our own common sense in our credit regulations. If a prospective customer favors us with his business that may take three, four or five months to pay, and we feel that we can grant that extension, he shall continue to have it.

The majority of our good customers still have the privilege of purchasing what little restricted merchandise we have without the advance payment of one-third down.

We recall that the NRA steamroller collided with a pullet belonging to one Schrechter of Pennsylvania, and the steam-roller completely disintegrated.

Call it bravado if you wish, but the first bureaucratic agency that endeavors to clamp down our little business should get braced for another NRA collision. We believe that the courts of our land will recognize that this is still a country where law-abiding business and industry have some rights that must be respected.

Wallpaper

The Inyo County Board of Supervisors annually issues a compilation by able County Auditor G. O. Goodwin entitled "Final County Budget." It is a concise, readable booklet that should be required reading for every taxpayer. There would be greater comprehension and appreciation of the multiplicity of details the Board of Supervisors must scrutinize with a fine-toothed comb. We think they have done a creditable job...It is particularly gratifying to residents of the Lone Pine Union High School District to note the sizeable decline of $11,738.40 in budget requirements for operations and debt retirement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1944, as compared with the same purposes during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1943. This is a decrease of 16½%. Budget outlays and actual expenditures covering the same periods for the other two county high school districts reveal increases of 16% and 26%. All credit to the L.P.U.H.S. trustees and former principal Bill Bauer now in the armed services of our country. Bill Bauer's ceaseless work with the Civilian Pilot Training programs was a material factor in turning a neat profit for the local district. Devoting the surplus to a budget reduction this year rather than spending it was commendable of the trustees. Not having the nest-egg for another year will of course result in an increase for the fiscal year ending 1945. With the pleasure of this year's reduction in mind we can take it without grumbling...A Lone Pine citizen of long standing residence will perhaps belatedly take Walter Dow's oft-repeated advice to know the area in which you live. Said local citizen wagered $50 in cold cash that the Mt. Whitney Hatchery road was south of Independence rather than north. Oi, yoi, yoi!...We are stepping up our print order with the January SAWDUST so that we can take on another 100 names for our mailing list. Send them in before the quota is filled...We will be closed Armistice Day and Thanksgiving... A loafer must feel funny when a holiday comes along...We recently dropped two of those new glass container jars of paint on the store floor. Considering the mess they made and the great quantity we have on our shelves, if we ever have an earthquake, we'll need a canoe to get to our desk...She was only a pitcher's daughter but oh, what curves....With the shortage of liquor there may soon be signs in cocktail bars: "Are you sure this drink is essential?"... The Lions Club Ladies' Night banquet honoring Postmaster Alice Tate's 30 years of continuous service was a grand gesture highlighted by the praiseworthy and reminiscent accounts of Judge Wm. D. Dehy, John H. Lubken and G. F. Marsh. Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Dow sent orchids literally and figuratively. Wm. L. Skinner's telegram and letter were read with appreciation ... The community plunge fund continues to grow thanks to generous checks from Major Roy French and Major George Palmer Putnam. Proceeds of the Olancha scrap drive were also presented to the plunge... Lars Backe rolled through Lone Pine to go deer hunting and made the brag that he would present us with venison on his return, and by George, he did!...Paradoxically Jack Hopkins receives his coal in box cars and we receive our lumber shipments in coal cars...

Another good family that we never believed would move from Lone Pine are the L. D. Owens. They will be sorely missed...Times certainly change. The seller formerly feted the customer, but not so now if one is to judge by the real-for-sure genuine t-bone steak dinner we recently sat in that George Shultz served to twenty suppliers and workers of his new Mt. Whitney Hospital. Johnny Morris was the capable chef...Speaking of dinners, Dick Hiter of Olancha was host to more than 200 at an open house at the Farmhouse Cafe. The piece de resistance was venison steaks. We missed out on that one, but if it was anything like the venison steak dinner we sat in on a few nights later while Dick was host to the L.P.U.H.S. trustees, it must have been a crackerjack!... Owens Valley folks are deeply concerned in the serious illness of a magnificent lady, Mrs. Vivian Bandhauer ... Remember when cut-glassware was all the rage?... The writer pulled a bedraggled cat out of Jim Mills' air-conditioner that had been mewing for hours. No one could find it. Fortunately no one turned on the air-conditioner so Jim didn't have any cat-burger...Western Day was one of the cleverest stunts we have ever seen by high school youngsters. We hope it will be an annual event...Statisticians assert that people now live longer than they did 100 years ago. They have to in order to pay their taxes... A billion dollars doesn't sound like much any more. But if you started in business in the year 1 A.D. with a billion dollars and lost $1,000 a day, you would still have money enough left to keep on going at the same rate for the next 800 years..."This is the World We're Fighting For," a 30-minutes Bullock's program on KFI each Tuesday at 9:30 p.m., authored by Charles "Cap" Palmer, frequent Shangri-Putnam visitor ... The lumber shortage for 1943 is estimated to be 6½ billion feet...Of 1943's production, about 45% will go for packing, crating and boxing ammunition and implements of war...In the past few months military requirements for lumber have soared from 6 billion to 15 billion feet...At the last official count there were 9,740 lumber mills shut down for other than seasonal reasons...As long as lumber remains the nation's number one raw material problem we can't look for an improvement...After 18 years on the desert, Nina "Ma" Reid of Coso Junction is residing in Los Angeles...A recent news dispatch asserted 21 funeral processions were halted outside of a Chicago cemetery by a picket line, and "there is nothing anyone can do about it." Is zat so?...For rather genuine radio pathos out of the class of the morning serials we nominate Hawthorne House... Have you noticed how Acme Beer has been flopping around for the past several months with radio program try-outs? Apparently they expect to knock off a hit with only five minutes radio time. Thus far they have all been boring...A stickler for an old fashioned label is the J. L. Prescott Company's Rising Sun Stove Polish. We remembered thirty years ago when it seemed out-moded even then ...Wonder what ever became of Fairy soap?...Inductees return and tell us grimly that there are two ways of doing things in this world: The Army way and the right way...Recent tragedy: Jim Mills' house cat, the mother of five then current kittens, being killed by a truck...And to think we used to consider Congressmen extravagant of the people's money because they mailed out free garden seeds!

RETROSPECTION
Lone Pine
November — 1928

Harold Carrasco, aged 5, was rushed to White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles with basal fracture of the skull sustained in fall from automobile in motion...Oiling operations on state highway through Lone Pine were under way...Shotgun kick fractured two of Henry Zum Benson's ribs as he fired at skunk in his cabin. He missed the skunk and shot a sizeable hole in a trunk...Mrs. E. H. Edwards, life-long Democrat, was notified of appointment on State Republican Committee for Herbert Hoover for president...Principal of Independence high school fired a .45 caliber pistol through an automobile load of Hallowe'en pranksters narrowly missing the occupants. His resignation was asked and received...Billy Murry of Keeler engaged in an altercation with a Lone Pine citizen on election night and died from the effects of striking his head on the pavement...One and one-half miles of the new Lone Pine-Porterville road has been gouged out of the Sierra. The new road was already proving a bonanza to wood dealers in opening up a new area for fuel...Emerson Knight of San Francisco, Inspector of State Park sites, spent considerable time photographing the Alabamas for a prospective state park...Tom Adamson died...Music for the Armistice Day high school dance was supplied by Miss Anna E. Smith, Miss Irene Chase, Miss Genevieve Naffziger, Fili Castro, George Thompson, Lloyd Day and Jack O'Connor. O. H. Honerlah, "the boy orator of the High Sierras" sold the lunches...High School Honor Roll double honors for the semester went to Evelyn Rich and Mildred Nelson...Andrew "Cyclone" Wilson of Keeler died suddenly while duck shooting...Kenneth Morrill drove his Model T. Ford into Lottie Dearborn's rooming house, accidentally.

EDITOR-LEAVES-TOWN . . .

The term Pubic Relations should be abolished.—The Independent Oil Producer.

You're darn tootin'!

A proposal by a riding academy that a bridle trail be constructed along the top of the embankment of the Los Angeles River, leading to the bride across Los Feliz Blvd., has been filed by the Park Com.—L. A. Times.

Won't the groom object?

His eyes were closing. But ours are open—light is abundant, there is no reason why we should scmfwy, shrdlu, shrdlu, nfwet.—Erie, Pa., Dispatch-Herald.

No, there really isn't!

The Garden Club will meet Wednesday at 2:30. The study subject will be: "Conservation of Native Pants."—Effingham, Ill., Record.

Those darn priorities again.

He suffered a stroke but with the loving care of his family and his kind and efficient nurse, he never fully recovered.—Platteville, Wis., paper.

They probably meant well

No other trains run so far for so long a distance as the "Florida Special."—Boston News Bureau.

How's that again?

Columbia, Tenn., the largest outdoor mule market in the world, recently held a mule parade, headed by the Governor.—New York Magazine.

What long ears you have, Governor.

GEMS OF AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE . . .

Your booklet entitled "Gems of American Architecture," has recently come to my attention. May I commend you for sponsoring the publication of such a delightfully written compilation of gems. We have a friend who is anticipating marriage, who with her husband should welcome such information as only your contribution offers, and would appreciate receiving this work. One of the houses pictured therein reminds us very much of a similar dwelling we have stopped at in Fallen Leaf, Lake Tahoe. We hope to present your publication at a bridal shower in the near future.—Barnett Atkinson, Benjamin Franklin H. S., L. A.

I have just seen a copy of your booklet entitled "Gems of American Architecture." I should like to secure one or two copies if I may do so.—H. G. Olsen, Basketbell Coach, Ohio State University, Columbus, O.

We have been advised that your firm specializes in "Dooleys." Inasmuch as we have been for some time discussing the adaptation of one of these works of art to motor truck chassis, we are wondering if you have any particular model that you could recommend? Will you please at the same time mail us two of your illustrated catalogues advising the model number recommended as well as any discount for cash.—C. W. Dansie, Taylor Motor Trucks, Inc., L. A.

I would be very glad to receive one of your descriptive catalogs on "Doolies." With continued good business, we may soon find ourselves in a position to afford one of the better models.—V. T. Berner, Mojave, Cal.

GLOBAL WPA . . .

Los Angeles, Cal.
Oct. 30, 1943

Hon. Hiram Johnson, Senator,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The Los Angeles EXAMINER carried an AP article under date of Oct. 23, that Uruguay has "accepted a gift of $500,000.00 from the United States Office of Coordination of Interamerican Affairs to be devoted to sanitation and health measures."

Does this mean it is an outright gift of money, taxed from the citizens of this country, or is this bureau a private one disbursing funds from a Foundation set up by philanthropists?

If this money is from public funds raised from taxation what is the authority for this? Does anyone know how much more has been given away? It is like taking the front door off of my house or the taking of money I have put aside to paint the house.

I was glad to hear of your recovery, you will be needed on the floor of the Senate to combat some of these secretly negotiated treaties that we know nothing of in advance.

Yours very sincerely,

ARTHUR E. TWOHY.

—SD—

The sergeant dozed in his bunk. A pleasant smile flickered across his relaxed face and he seemed to be drifting into dreamland with nothing but best wishes for the entire world. Suddenly there was a transformation. His face grew stern and he bellowed: "Damn you sheep! Why can't you keep in step?"

—Terminal Topics.

BEHIND THE BANDSAW . . .

Sergeant: "So that girl you had out riding last night refused to take off her coat in the parked car?"

Corporal: "Yeah, that's part of her defense program, so she said."

—SD—

See the happy moron,
He doesn't give a damn!
I wish I were a moron—
My gawd! Perhaps I am!

—SD—

Boss (sternly pointing to a cigar butt on floor): "Jones is that yours?"

Jones (pleasantly): "Not at all sir. You saw it first."

—SD—

"Sambo, where you all gwine in such a rage?"

"Ah's gwine to get that doctah what sewed up my operation wif white thread."

—SD—

Sergeant: "On my day off I think I'll visit one of those palmists, or maybe a mind reader."

Buck Private: "Go to a palmist. It's obvious that you have a palm."

—SD—

Lucille (reading from diary): "Up at 8. Felt a little seasick, so took two pills. Passed an iceberg at ten."

Greta (listening): "Good gracious!"

—SD—

Sam: "Listen heah, boy, jes' what kind of life you been livin'?"

Rastus: "Oh, ordinary, jes' ordinary."

Sam: "Well, if yo' pulls any mo' aces out o' yo' shoe, yo' ordinary life is goin' to mature."

—SD—

He: "Let's get married or something."

She: "We'll get married or nothing."

Navy Bill had broken with his girl friend Milly. After ignoring several letters requesting the return of her photographs, one came threatening to complain to the captain. Deciding to squelch her for all time, he borrowed all the pictures of girls available on the ship, sending them to her in a large bundle with the note: "Pick yours out, I've forgotten what you look like."—The Liquid Line.

—SD—

A middle-aged woman lost her balance and fell out of a window into a garbage can. A Chinaman passing, remarked: "Americans vely wasteful. Woman good for ten years yet."

—SD—

PRESS ITEM OF THE MONTH. . .

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4—(AP)—A draft registrant in Poinsett County, Ark., who brought his local board a letter proving he was married and the father of seven children is probably still wondering what goes on here.

The letter, according to the War Manpower Commission's Selective Service bulletin, sent him off promptly to the induction station. It read:

"Dear United States Army:

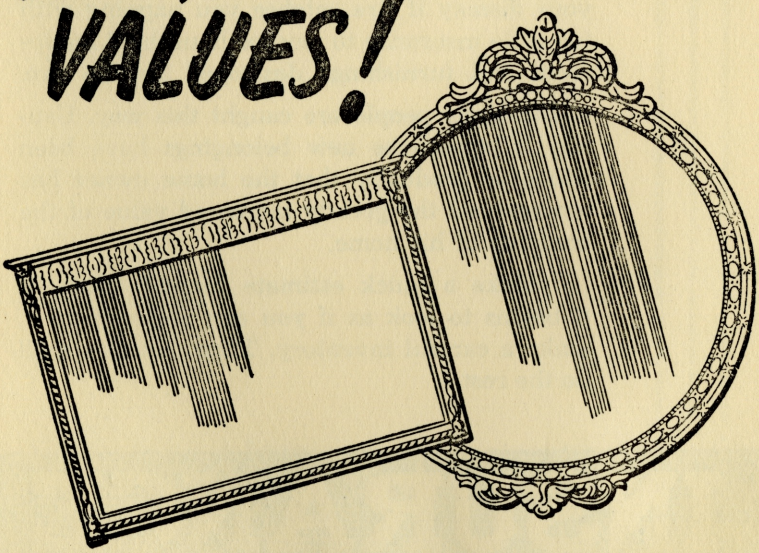
"My husband asked me to write a recommend that he supports his family. He cannot read, so don't tell him. Just take him. He ain't no good to me. He ain't done nothing but raise hell and drink lemon essence since I married him eight years ago, and I got to feed seven kids of his. Maybe you can get him to carry a gun. He's good on squirrels and eating. Take him and welcome. I need the grub and his bed for the kids. Don't tell him this, but just take him and send him as far as you can."

for your home ... **OR THEIRS**

MIRRORS

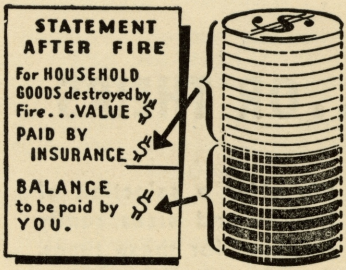
Real Xmas **VALUES!**

We offer a selection of frames and sizes really amazing for these times. Come in and see them! Every mirror crystal-clear Pittsburgh plate glass. Beautifully gift-packaged. And how you'll like our prices!



Lone Pine Lumber & Supply Company

Lone Pine, California



YOU CAN DECIDE THE AMOUNT OF YOUR STATEMENT

Usually a "statement" comes to you because you haven't paid a bill. But here is an outline of a statement you may have to figure out to your dismay if fire catches you napping with too little insurance to pay for household equipment and furnishings destroyed by the fire.

Too many people are caught this way. Usually it is because new belongings have been added so gradually that the home owner has not realized the greatly increased value of the contents of his home.

Make a quick estimate tonight. Then, if it begins to look as if you are under-insured, make a careful inventory. Then call us—we'll do the rest.

INSURANCE

"For Everything Insurable"

Rudie Henderson ✦ Edward Wm. Hjeltness